

CLASSIFICATION

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

COUNTRY East Germany

50X1-HUM

TOPIC Military Information from Dessau-Rosslau

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

11 May 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Prior to 19 April 1953, most of the Soviet troop units stationed in Rosslau had left. The barracks installations were only lightly occupied by [redacted] rear details.

Troops and materiel loaded on the spur track between 15 and 19 April included: about 18 to 20 trucks, [redacted] and 8 to 10 boxcarloads of billeting equipment.

boxes and baggage, between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. on 15 April. Sixteen to 18 T-34/85 tanks and JS-2 and JS-3 tanks, [redacted] 6 trucks, [redacted] and 9 to 10 boxcarloads of

troops, at about 6 p.m. on 15 April.

Twelve 76.2-mm field guns, 16 to 18 trucks [redacted] and 10 to 12 boxcarloads of troops and equipment, at about 7 a.m. on 19 April.

On 15 April, 9 T-34/85 tanks were entrained in Dessau and left toward Kochstedt, probably for the barracks installation, which had been vacated by VP.<sup>2</sup>

2. On 19 April, the engineer training site I, east of Rosslau, was occupied by about 1,400 troops, which were quartered in tents, except for the officers, who were quartered in one-story wooden buildings. On 16 April, the beginning of the construction of a bridge involving three-section pontoons was observed near kilometer mark 255 of the Elbe River. Vehicles loaded with troops and bridge building equipment forded the river from the southern bank to the northern bank. Between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m., the area between kilometermarks 235 and 260 was cordoned off. On 18 April, 6 motor boats were seen on the bank and 3 motorboats were in the water at the engineer training site I. Three small amphibious cars were seen nearby. Three trucks with pontoons, [redacted] arrived at the training site, coming from the direction of Dessau. They were followed by a full-track vehicle with a trailer, [redacted] On 18 April, advance details had arrived at the engineer training sites Nos II, III and IV between Rosslau and Aken. On 14 April, the Elbe River was blocked between kilometer mark 290 and 311 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. [redacted] a bridge was being built in this area.<sup>4</sup>

1. Comment. The transfer to Letzling Heath of the 7th Gds Tank Div has repeatedly been confirmed. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
2. Comment. [redacted] a cadre unit of the KVP from the barracks installation in Kochstedt was entrained for Rostock on 8 and 9 April. [redacted] It is not known whether the tanks, which arrived on 15 April, belonged to the Soviet Army or the KVP.

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3. [ ] Comment. As in the preceding year, the 36th Pan Bridge Regt of the GORC, in early April, arrived in this area east of Rosslau for summer training. [ ]

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4. [ ] Comment. [ ] the unidentified engineer regiment of the GORC, from Hamburg had left for Dessau-Aken as early as 14 April. [ ] Therefore, it is possible that the regiment, from 14 to 18 April, practiced river crossing in the area mentioned [ ] and subsequently moved to the Hirschleckerdamm wood camp, 2 km south of Rietzmeck, which has been known since 1952.

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